

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The following claim listing replaces all prior listings and versions of the claims:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (New) A data storage method for reading, from a recording medium, a plurality of pieces of audio data for execution of playback by a playback device, with a plurality of pieces of management information each corresponding to one of the pieces of audio data, and storing the read pieces of data into a storage unit of the playback device, the storage unit having a management information area for storing management information and an audio data area for storing audio data, the method comprising:

a default setting step of setting a capacity of the audio data area,

a management information storing step of sequentially storing pieces of read management information into the management information area;

a re-setting step of decreasing the capacity of the audio data area if the management information area becomes full before all pieces of read management information are stored; and

an audio data storing step of storing the pieces of read audio data into the audio data area having the capacity effective upon completion of the reading of management information from the recording medium.

11. (New) The data storage method according to Claim 10, wherein the management information storing step and the re-setting step are repeated until the reading of management information from the recording medium ends.

12. (New) The data storage method according to Claim 10, wherein
the pieces of read management information are recorded starting from a starting address
of the storage unit, and

the pieces of read audio data are recorded starting from an address contiguous to an end
address of the pieces of management information on the storage unit.

13. (New) The data storage method according to Claim 10, wherein
the pieces of read audio data are recorded starting from a starting address of the storage
unit, and

the pieces of read management information are recorded starting from an address
contiguous to an end address of the pieces of audio data on the storage unit.

14. (New) The data storage method according to Claim 10, wherein
each piece of management information indicates a file name of a corresponding piece of
audio data.

15. (New) The data storage method according to Claim 10, wherein
the plurality of pieces of audio data are compressed using a predetermined compression
format.

16. (New) The data storage method according to Claim 10, wherein
the recording medium is an optical disc medium.

17. (New) The data storage method according to Claim 10, wherein
in the re-setting step, the capacity of the audio data area is decreased to a size larger than
a predetermined capacity.

18. (New) The data storage method according to Claim 10, wherein
the audio area is set to be an area of the storage unit other than an area used to store
pieces of management information at a time when the reading of management information from
the recording medium completes.

19. (New) The data storage method according to Claim 10, further comprising:
a minimum setting step of setting a minimum capacity of the audio data area, wherein
if the capacity of the audio data area after the decrease to be performed in the re-setting
step is calculated to be a size smaller than the minimum capacity, the reading of management
information is ended so that no more pieces of management information is read from the
recording medium.